POOR PROFITABILITY OF PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

2462. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the continuing time and cost overruns is implementation of public sector projects are a major cause of poor profitability of these projects;

(b) whether such overruns also lead to premature technology absolescence;

(c) whether these delays are caused by inadequate attention to all aspects of project planning and implementation;

(d) If so, what steps does that Government intend to take to rectify the situation and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) No, sir. The time and cost overrun is one of the major reasons for poor profitability of only some public sector projects.

(b) No, sir. However, only in hightech areas where inordinate delay may cause technological obsolescence.

(c) The delay is generally caused by the delay in land acquisition, delay in supplies, poor project management and failure of contractors.

(d) The Government is continuously studying the scope for improvements in the existing systems and procedures. The procedural aspects of land acquisition, contract management and application of latest project management tools for improved formulation, appraisal, planning and implementation are under consideration to avoid delays and cost increase in projects.

ALLOCATION FOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN MADHYA PRADESH

2463. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for irrigation projects in each district of Madhya Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) what is the allocation of funds for tribal and backward areas for the projects which are likely to be completed in the State during the Plan period and break-up for each year, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Irrigation being a State subject, the allocation of funds, planning, execution and maintenance etc. are the resposibility of the concerned State Governments. The Planning Commission, to not recommend district-wise funds for irrigation projects. For the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission have approved an outlay of Rs. 1791.29 crores for Major and Medium Irrigation schemes and Rs. 728.37 crores for Minor Irrigation Schemes. As per the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, the flow of funds from the irrigation projects to the Tribal sub-Plan during 8th Plan is estimated to be Rs. 907.59 crores.

NDCS PANEL ON POWER

2364. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Development Council (NDC) has set up a panel on power to check out on action plan for the structural reform programme in the power sector and the related areas;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;